

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Election of Species Requirement

The examiner has issued an election of species requirement in the present case. Claims 1-21 and 46-72 are currently pending in the present application. The Examiner has identified the currently pending claims as being directed to three (3) patentably distinct species:

Species I - as depicted by Figure 3;

Species II - as depicted by Figure 4; and

Species III - as depicted by Figure 10.

In order to comply with 35 U.S.C. § 121, the Applicant elects to prosecute Species I, as identified by the Examiner. The Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-21 and 46-54 of the present application are readable on Species I, as identified by the Examiner. Applicants' election is made without prejudice. Applicant will also be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species, provided that all claims to each additional species are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 C.F.R. 1.141. The Examiner has indicated that claim 1 of the present application is generic. The Applicant respectfully submits that the remainder of the currently pending claims contain all of the limitations of generic claim 1, and should thus be rejoined to the present application upon allowance of claim 1.

CONCLUSION

The Applicant has elected to prosecute Species I, as identified by the Examiner. The Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-21 and 46-54 of the present application are readable on Species I. Therefore, an action on the merits of claims 1-21 and 46-54, and a Notice of Allowance thereof are respectfully requested.


Telephone inquiry to the undersigned in order to clarify or otherwise expedite prosecution of the present application is respectfully encouraged.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: _____


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